

What is claimed is:

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1. A method of associating information with an object in a file, the method comprising:

- associating a search key with the object in said file; and
- scheduling a search for said information using said search key, for automatic future execution by a searching mechanism operable to execute scheduled searches.

2. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein associating a search key comprises tagging the object.

3. The method claimed in claim 2 wherein tagging the object comprises associating a label with the object.

4. The method claimed in claim 3 wherein associating a label comprises inserting a tag adjacent a string of text in a document.

5. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein scheduling comprises storing said search key and a time of execution at which said search is to be executed in association with each other.

6. The method claimed in claim 2 wherein scheduling comprises storing said search key in association with a time of execution at which said search is to be executed and in association with a tag identifying said object.

7. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

- initiating a pre-scheduled search for said information at a pre-scheduled time, using said search key; and
- associating with said object a result of said search.

8. A computer readable medium for providing codes for directing a processor circuit to:

- associate a search key with an object in a file; and
- schedule a search for information using said search key, for automatic future execution by a searching mechanism operable to execute scheduled searches.

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9. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, comprising:

- a first code segment for directing a processor circuit to associate a search key with an object in a file; and
- a second code segment for directing said processor circuit to schedule a search for information using said search key, for automatic future execution by a searching mechanism operable to execute scheduled searches.

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10. An apparatus for associating information with an object in a file, the apparatus comprising:

- means for associating a search key with the object in said file; and
- means for scheduling a search for said information using said search key, for automatic future execution by a searching mechanism operable to execute scheduled searches.

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11. An apparatus for associating information with an object in a file, the apparatus comprising a scheduler including a component for associating a search key with the object in the file, wherein said scheduler is operable to schedule a search for said information using said search key for automatic future execution by a search interface operable to initiate scheduled searches.

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12. The apparatus claimed in claim 11 wherein said scheduler is operable to tag the object.

13. The apparatus claimed in claim 12 wherein said scheduler is operable to associate a label with the object.

5 14. The apparatus claimed in claim 13 wherein said scheduler is operable to insert a tag adjacent a string of text in a document.

10 15. The apparatus claimed in claim 11 wherein said scheduler comprises memory and wherein said scheduler is operable to store said search key and a time of execution at which said search is to be executed in association with each other.

15 16. The apparatus claimed in claim 12 wherein said scheduler is operable to store said search key in association with a time of execution at which said search is to be executed and in association with a tag identifying said object.

20 17. The apparatus claimed in claim 11 further comprising a search executor for initiating a pre-scheduled search for said information at a pre-scheduled time, using said search key.

18. The apparatus claimed in claim 17 wherein said search executor is operable to communicate with a search engine to effect said search and to receive a search result.

19. The apparatus claimed in claim 18 wherein said search executor is operable to associate with said object a result of said search.

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29. A computer readable medium for providing computer readable codes for directing a processor circuit to:

- 5 a) initiate a pre-scheduled search for information at a pre-scheduled time, using a search key associated with an object in a file; and
- b) associate with said object a result of said search.

30. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, comprising:

- 10 a) a first code segment for directing a processor circuit to initiate a pre-scheduled search for information at a pre-scheduled time, using a search key associated with an object in a file; and
- b) a second code segment for directing said processor circuit to associate with said object a result of said search.

31. An apparatus for associating information with an object in a file, the apparatus comprising:

- 15 a) means for initiating a pre-scheduled search for said information at a pre-scheduled time, using a search key associated with said object; and
- b) means for associating with said object a result of said search.

32. An apparatus for associating information with an object in a file, the apparatus comprising a search executor for initiating a pre-scheduled search for said information at a pre-scheduled time, using a search key associated with said object, and for associating with said object a result of said search.

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33. The apparatus claimed in claim 31 wherein said search executor is operable to invoke a search when, or after said pre-scheduled time occurs.

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34. The apparatus claimed in claim 33 wherein said search executor is operable to invoke a search engine.

35. The apparatus claimed in claim 34 wherein said search executor is operable to address a universal resource locator (URL) associated with said pre-scheduled search.

5 36. The apparatus claimed in claim 35 wherein said search executor is operable to run scripts to populate search engine fields of the search engine.

10 37. The apparatus claimed in claim 35 wherein said search executor is operable to receive and store a results URL associated with results of said search.

15 38. The apparatus claimed in claim 37 wherein said search executor comprises memory and wherein said search executor is operable to store said results URL in association with said pre-scheduled search.

39. The apparatus claimed in claim 38 wherein said search executor is operable to associate with the object a hyperlink pointing to said results URL.

20 40. The apparatus claimed in claim 39 wherein said search executor is operable to produce a table associating an object tag, said search key, said pre-scheduled time, said URL associated with said pre-scheduled search and said results URL with each other to identify said search.